

11 September 1973: Military Coup in Chile



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Crimes, Resistance and Legal Intervention

On 11 September 1973 the democratically elected socialist President Salvador Allende was ousted in a Chilean military coup led by junta leader Augusto Pinochet. This marked the beginning of the bloodiest military dictatorship – alongside with the military dictatorship in Argentina (1976-1983) – in Latin American history, during which thousands of people were murdered, tortured and kidnapped. Yet even through the years of greatest repression, left-wing parties and the inhabitants of Chile's shanty towns continued to organize resistance against the regime. After a successful campaign by his opponents, Pinochet met his downfall in a referendum held in 1988, formally marking the end of his dictatorship. But even after the elections in 1989, Pinochet remained the dominant figure in Chilean political life. This changed only much later on when, on 16 October 1998, Pinochet was arrested in London.

On the 40th anniversary of the Chilean military coup and to mark the 15th anniversary of Pinochet's arrest in London, we are hosting a series of events to explore what impact these historic moments had on the global human rights movement. How have these events inspired similar actions in the global struggle for social justice? What effects do they still have today on legal interventions? Is the growing importance of the human rights movement – as Samuel Moyn puts forward in the book 'The Last Utopia' – indeed a reaction to the devastating defeat suffered by various left-wing political projects? Legal steps taken in the aftermath of the military dictatorships in Argentina and Chile led to hundreds of court proceedings being carried out in those countries, experiences which serve to demonstrate how a transnationally active human rights movement can successfully rally against impunity.

We plan to discuss these issues with those who were directly involved in the events as well as with lawyers, activists, artists and historians and to learn about their personal experiences. Additionally, we hope that the combination of historical perspective, political and legal analysis and artistic interventions will inspire new visions for contemporary human rights work.

Location

All events take place at ECCHR, Zossener Str. 55-58, Entrance D, 5th floor, 10961 Berlin.

Exception: The event on 30 September 2013 takes place at the Berliner Abgeordnetenhaus, Room 311, Niederkirchnerstraße 5, 10117 Berlin.

Program

11 September 2013

19:00

Resistance in Chile

Book launch

with Karl-Heinz Dellwo (Hamburg)

Impressions of a Dictatorship

Vernissage - photo exhibition

by José Giribas (Berlin)

(In German)

18 September 2013

19:00

**Germany and the Chilean Military Dictatorship – the
Colonia Dignidad**

Panel discussion with

Claudia Cárdenas (Santiago de Chile)

Jan Stehle (Berlin)

Petra Schlagenhaut (Berlin)

Chaired by: Andreas Schüller (ECCHR)

*(In cooperation with the Center for Research and
Documentation Chile-Latin America (FDCL) and
Lateinamerika-Nachrichten)*

(In German)

30 September 2013

19:00

**The ‘Pinochet Effect’– the Impact of Transnational Legal
Action**

Panel discussion with

Baltasar Garzón (Madrid)

David Sugarman (Lancaster)

Juan Garcés (Madrid)

Beatriz Brinkmann (Santiago de Chile)

Chaired by: Wolfgang Kaleck (ECCHR)

*(In German, English and Spanish with simultaneous
interpretation)*

Note: This event takes place at the Berliner Abgeordnetenhaus,
Room 311, Niederkirchnerstraße 5, 10117 Berlin.

16 October 2013

19:00

Mercedes Benz Argentina. *Ein Konzern und seine Verantwortung* (A Company and its Responsibility)
Film screening and discussion
A film by Frank Gutermuth and Wolfgang Schoen (Berlin)

(In German)

6 November 2013

19:00

Corporations and their Legal Responsibility for the Crimes of the Dictatorship in Argentina
Panel discussion with
Hannah Franzki (London)
Rodolfo Yanzón (Buenos Aires)
Wolfgang Kaleck (ECCHR)
Chaired by: Annelen Micus (ECCHR)
(In German and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation)

16 November 2013

19:00

Chile Ayer-Hoy
Vernissage - installation
by Federico Zukerfeld (Buenos Aires) and Loreto Garín (Chile)

***Widerstand gegen Pinochet* (Resistance against Pinochet)**
Underground documentary

20:00

ECCHR Office Party

This series of events has been made possible through the financial support of the



Claudia Cárdenas (Santiago de Chile) is Professor of Criminal Law at the Law Faculty of the Universidad de Chile.

Karl-Heinz Dellwo (Hamburg) is a publisher and produces the *Bibliothek des Widerstands* series with the Laika publishing house.

Hannah Franzki (London) is a sociologist undertaking research on the Argentine military dictatorship with a focus on corporate responsibility.

Loreto Garín (Chile) is a founding member of multidisciplinary collective Etcetera, which comprises visual artists, writers, actors and performers.

Baltasar Garzón (Madrid) was the Spanish investigating magistrate who ordered the arrest and extradition of Pinochet in 1998.

José Giribas (Berlin) is a Chilean photojournalist.

Juan Garcés (Madrid) served as an advisor to Salvador Allende and while working as an attorney in Spain was an instigator of Pinochet's arrest.

Frank Gutermuth (Berlin) is a social scientist and filmmaker.

Petra Schlagenhaut (Berlin) works as an ECCHR cooperating attorney representing victims of the Colonia Dignidad, and serves on the board of the Center for Research and Documentation Chile-Latin America (FDCL).

David Sugarman (London), Professor, is Director of the Centre for Law and Society at Lancaster University and has undertaken extensive legal analysis of the arrest of Pinochet.

Jan Stehle (Berlin) is a researcher at the Center for Research and Documentation Chile-Latin America (FDCL) investigating the Colonia Dignidad cases and Germany's cooperation with the Pinochet regime.

Rodolfo Yanzón (Buenos Aires) is an Argentine human rights lawyer and ECCHR cooperating attorney representing victims of the military dictatorship.

Federico Zukerfeld (Buenos Aires) is a founding member of the multidisciplinary collective Etcetera.